

REMARKS

In an Office Action dated 9 February 2005, the Examiner rejected Claims 1 – 3, 6, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,195,430, issued to Eriksson. In addition, the Examiner objected to Claims 4, 5, and 8 as "being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." The Examiner also allowed claim 9. Applicant has cancelled claims 3, 4, and 8 and has amended claims 1, 5, and 6. Applicant believes that claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, and 9 are now allowable.

With regards to Claims 1 – 3, 6, and 7, the Examiner noted:

Regarding claim 1, Eriksson discloses a method and device for echo cancellation using power estimation in a residual signal. In addition, Eriksson discloses a gain control method for acoustic cancellation and suppression for use with a full duplex voice terminal receiving a far-end signal from a far-end voice terminal and sending a transmit signal to the far-end voice terminal, the full duplex voice terminal having an adaptive filter, a speaker and a microphone, the method comprising: playing the far-end signal at the speaker; receiving an echo signal that is acoustically coupled from the speaker to the microphone, wherein the echo signal is a portion of the far-end signal played at the speaker; filtering the far-end signal by the adaptive filter to generate a filtered signal; calculating an error signal, wherein the error signal is the difference between the echo signal minus the filtered signal; calculating the attenuation factor from the far-end signal; the filtered signal, and the error, wherein the attenuation factor is between a predetermined upper limit and a predetermined lower limit; and calculating the transmit signal, wherein the transmit signal is the product of the attenuation factor times the error signal.

The Examiner also noted that claim 9 was allowable and also objected to claims 4, 5, and 8 as being dependent on rejected base claims, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has therefore reviewed the Examiner's comments, the cited Eriksson Patent and has cancelled claims 3, 4, and 8 and has amended claims 1, 5, and 6. Applicant believes that claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, and 9 are now allowable under 35 U.S.C.

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§102(e) over the cited Eriksson Patent. In particular, as suggested by the Examiner: a) the limitations of claim 4 have been incorporated into base claim 1 and intervening claim 3; b) the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening claim 3 have been incorporated into claim 5; and c) the limitations of claim 8 have been incorporated into base claim 6.

Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance of claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, and 9 in this application in light of the remarks set forth herein. The undersigned attorney requests Examiner Harold to telephone if a conversation could expedite the prosecution of this application. Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge any required payment of fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1848.

Respectfully submitted,
PATTON BOGGS LLP

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By:


James M. Graziano, Reg. No. 28,300
Telephone: (303) 894-6113
Facsimile: (303) 894-9239

Customer No.: 24283

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